THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The State Governments/other Central Ministries have been advised to rigidly enforce the existing legislation/instructions concerning non-smoking in different places of entertainment and transport including Railway Stations, Airports, Government Offices, educational institutions hospitals/dispensaries, official conferences, symposia, stadia, meetings etc.

(c) Does not arise.

Central Board of Film Certification

167. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the guidelines observed by the Central Board of Film Certification regarding censoring of films;

(b) what steps are taken by the Board in order to avoid discrimination and injustice;

(c) whether Government propose to change the guidelines; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Central Board of Film Certification, while certifying a film for public exhibition are guided by the principles enumerated in Section 5-B of the Cinematograph Act, 1952. As per Sub-Section (1) of Section 5-B of the said Act, the film or any part of it shall not be against the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality, or involve defamation or contempt of Court or incite the commission of any offence.

In addition to this, the Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of Section 5-B of the said Act has issued a set of guidelines for sanctioning films for public exhibition. These are given in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below).

(b) The detailed procedure for examination and certification of films as prescribed in the Cinematograph Act, 1952 are to be followed in respect of each application for certifiaction of films. The films are examined in the light of the guidelines referred to above. Furthermore, the principles of nautral justice are always kept in view while handling each case.

The observance of prescribed procedures ensures that no discrimination and injustice is caused to any applicant. At the same time, each film has necessarily to be examined on its own merits in the context of prescribed guidelines.

(c) and (d) Whereas no changes are contemplated in the broad frame work of the guidelines, some suggestions have been made in the recently held National Conference on Film Certification and these are under consideration.

Statement

CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CENSORS

GUIDELINES

(*As amended upto 7th May* 1983)

SRO———In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of Section 5B, of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 (37 of 1952), the Central Government hereby directs that, in sanctioning of films for public exhibition, the Board of Film Censors shall be guided by the following principles:—

1. The objectives of film censorship will be to ensure that—

(a) the medium of film remains responsible and sensitive to the values and standards of society;

(b) artistic expression and creative freedom are not unduly curbed; and

(c) censorship is responsive to social change.

2. In pursuance of the above objectives, the Board of Film Censors shall ensure that—

(i) anti-social activities such as violence are not glorified or justified;

(ii) the modus operandi of criminals or other visuals or words likely to incite the commission of any offence are not depicted;

(iii) pointless or avoidable scenes of violence, cruelty and horror are not shown;

(iii-a) scenes which have the effect of justifying or glorifying drinking are not shown;

(iv) human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity and depravity;

(iv-a) visuals or words depicting women in ignoble servility to man or glorifying such servility as a praiseworthy quality in women are not presented;

(v) visuals or words contemptuous of racial, religious or other groups are not presented;

(vi) the sovereignty and integrity of India is not called in question;

(vii) the security of the State is not jeopardised or endangered;

(viii) friendly relations with foreign States are not strained;

(ix) public order is not endangered;

(x) visuals or words involving defamation or contempt of Court are not presented.

3. The Board of Film Censors shall also ensure that the film—

(i) is judged in its entirely from the point of view of its overall impact; and

(ii) is examined in the light of contemporary standards of the country and the people to which the film relates.

4. Films that meet the above-mentioned criteria but are considered unsuitable for exhibition to non-adults shall be certified for exhibition to adult audiences only.

5. The notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Informaion and Broadcasting No. G.S.R. 168, dated 6th February 1960 is hereby superseded.

(Authority——Notification No. F.5/5/77-FC, dated 7th January 1978 read with Notification No. F.5/5/77-FC, dated 27th January 1979 and Notification No. 805/2/82-F(C), dated 7th May 1983 issued by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, New Delhi.)

Teaching of Astronomy in schools

168. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn to a report which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated December 25, 1987, stating that the Prime Minister had stressed the need for teaching of astronomy in the school curriculam in India; and

(b) if so, what arrangements have been made in this rgard in Central educational institutions; and what directions if any have been given to the State Governments in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) School Education is looked after primarily by the State Governments. It is for the State agencies to frame and prescribe the scheme of studies syllabi, curricula,